

[WWW.HIGHLANDYOUTHVOICE.ORG](http://WWW.HIGHLANDYOUTHVOICE.ORG)

**HAVE YOUR SAY**  
**DÈ DO BHEACHD-SA?**

**DISCOUNTS**  
**LA SACHAIDHEAN**

**STAY INFORMED**  
**FIOSRACHADH**

**GET INVOLVED**  
**THEIRIG AN SÀS**

# Highland Youth Voice

## Who are HYV?

Highland Youth Voice is a **youth parliament** for the Highlands and is an elected body of 100 members. 70 members are directly elected from schools and the remaining 32 are elected through Youth Forums in the Highlands. Each area then elects 2 members to join the Xec Committee.

## What do they do?

Highland Youth Voice meets as a whole parliament in November at **Carbisdale Castle** in Sutherland and in June at the **Sabhal Mor Ostaig** Gaelic College in Skye. At these meetings, members get a chance to meet each other and take part in workshops on the things that affect young people and at the same time have fun! Through the rest of the 2 year term, you then become a representative of young people in the community and take issues forward, together with your colleagues and Youth Workers.

## The Xec

The Highland Youth Voice Executive Committee ensures that the work of HYV carries on between main meetings. They meet regularly to ensure the issues arising from HYV meetings are followed up with action. They also attend relevant meetings of decision-makers, and play a major role in the planning, development and smooth running of the full parliament meetings.

## Why should I get involved?

Youth Voice gives you a chance to influence the decision makers in the Highlands. If you want to say something about your school dinners, or the health services, or that you feel that the education system in Scotland could be better - then Highland Youth Voice allows you to be heard by the right people.

## How do I get involved?

You can either stand for election in your school, or through your local Youth Forum. Elections take place every two years - you can find out more about the elections via the website.

Candidates will be asked to fill out a form about themselves and also write a short statement on what they think is important.

## Youthbanks

Youthbanks are currently operating in Inverness, Nairn, Caithness, Ross & Cromarty and Sutherland, with others hopefully to follow.

Youthbanks allow young people to make decisions on funding local projects for other young people and get involved in promoting their Youthbank through training on grant making, assessing applications and interviewing other young people.

For more information visit: [www.youthbank.org.uk](http://www.youthbank.org.uk)

## FIND OUT WHO'S...

- Your HYV Rep: [www.highlandyouthvoice.org](http://www.highlandyouthvoice.org)
- Your Local Councillor: [www.highland.gov.uk](http://www.highland.gov.uk)
- Your MSP: [www.scotland.gov.uk](http://www.scotland.gov.uk)
- Your MP: [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk)
- Your MSYP: [www.scottishyouthparliament.org.uk](http://www.scottishyouthparliament.org.uk)
- Your MEP: [www.europarl.org.uk](http://www.europarl.org.uk)
- Your MEYP: [www.eyp.org](http://www.eyp.org)

# High Life ~ Young Scot

A new Smart Card that has been jointly branded with the Highland Council's High Life leisure and libraries card and the national Young Scot card.

## Your card can give you:

- ▶ Discounts in local and national shops, such as Burtons, Miss Selfridge, Topshop, Citylink and Vue Cinemas.
- ▶ 50 pence access to Highland Council leisure facilities.
- ▶ Use of your local library.
- ▶ Information services for you.
- ▶ Methods for having your say.
- ▶ Proof of age, with a PASS hologram, your photo, name and date of birth.
- ▶ Access to the Young Scot web site.

## Become a Discount Negotiator

We want to work with you, to get more of your local stores on the High Life ~ Young Scot discount scheme. Contact us or your local Youth Worker to find out about discounting activities in your area.

## Become a Web Reporter!

The Young Scot website has local Highland pages that need young reporters to keep them fresh and exciting. If you want to write articles, share your views or let people know what's on in your area - contact us or your local Youth Worker.

## Become a Podcaster!

If you've ever fancied becoming a radio presenter, here's how you could get started! A podcast is an audio (radio) programme that is available for download from the Internet in MP3 format that can go straight on to your MP3 player. High Life ~ Young Scot now has equipment to record your programmes and post them on the website for other people to download! Contact us if you're interested.



## National Entitlement Card

The new card will be available from April 2006 as part of the Scotland wide free bus travel for older and disabled people (including young disabled people) scheme. As the card begins to encompass other services it will replace any existing cards.

# STAY UP TO DATE

## Online

For all the information, news and advice you'll ever need, check out:

[www.highlandyouthvoice.org](http://www.highlandyouthvoice.org)

[www.youngscot.org](http://www.youngscot.org)

## Text Service

You can now sign up for a text / SMS service, by registering your High Life ~ Young Scot card for free, on the Young Scot website.

## Email Updates

While you're registering your card online, you can also sign up for regular email updates.

# Have Your Say

## E-Forums

Check out the website to have your say on the Your Voice online forums.

## E-Surveys

Make your views known by using the online surveys on the website, and you may be entered into a prize draw while you're at it!

# CONTACT US

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Fax: 01463 711177

Text: 07781 484 333

Website: [www.highlandyouthvoice.org](http://www.highlandyouthvoice.org)

# YOUTH FORUMS & PUPIL COUNCILS

If you don't fancy Highland Youth Voice, or you want to get some experience to increase your chances of being elected, then there are other ways of getting involved:

## Youth Forums:

Youth Forums have been established in each of the 8 areas and are made up of young people drawn from local youth groups, if you are interested contact your local office:

**Caithness:** 01955 605423

**Badenoch & Strathspey:** 01479 810164

**Inverness:** 01463 229209

**Lochaber:** 01397 707360

**Nairn:** 01667 454191

**Ross & Cromarty:** 01349 885113

**Skye & Lochalsh:** 01478 614059

**Sutherland:** 01408 623911

## Pupil Councils:

Most Secondary Schools have pupil councils, or other similar consultation methods, and can influence decisions that improve school life. They operate in different ways depending on the school and have varying levels of power and influence but are there to represent the views of **ALL** pupils and can be a very effective tool for communicating within the school and with the Highland Council and other organisations.



# GETTING INVOLVED DOL NA LUIB

How do **you** get your views heard?

How do **you** access information?

How do **you** influence the decisions that affect you?

How do organisations make it worth your while?

We want it to be easier for you to have your say in decisions that affect you by offering a range of interesting options.

# WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU THINK!

